

## **MINUTES**

### **NEVADA COMMISSION ON HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Tuesday, February 17, 2004, 1:00 p.m.**

**Las Vegas**

**UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION LEARNING CENTER  
2690 LINDELL STREET  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN BUSSELL**

Commissioners: John Alamshaw, Dennis Balaam, Richard Brenner, Tod Carlini, Robert Fisher, Robert Hadfield, Maria Lipscomb, Chuck Lowden, Kimberly McDonald, Maureen Peckman, Jack Staley, Doyle Sutton, Giles Vanderhoof, Larma Volk, and Senator Dennis Nolan were present.

Commissioners not present were Vice-Chairman Jerry Keller, Dale Carrison, Robert Cashell, Ellen Knowlton, Michael Mayberry, Maureen Peckman, Lawrence Weekly, William Young, and Assemblyman William Horne.

a. Verification of Quorum: Yes.

Chairman Bussell: Let the record show I am turning the meeting over to Bob Hadfield as Vice-Chairman Jerry Keller is not here. I would like to sit out front with Mr. Siracusa.

#### **2. FFY '04 FUNDING FORMULA- Mr. Frank Siracusa, Director, Division of Emergency Management.**

Mr. Frank Siracusa introduced himself as the Chief of Division of Emergency Management and stated we are also the state administrative agent for the Homeland Security Dollars.

Prior to this meeting, Item 2 on this Agenda was discussed in the Finance Subcommittee meeting in detail. During that meeting, several issues of concern were brought up regarding the upcoming distribution of the '04 Funding of the '04 Homeland Security Dollars.

First area of issue was we previously funded through the LEPC to the counties that we recommended to the Finance Subcommittee is the '04 allocation of Homeland Security Dollars we expect in three to four weeks, and to get Notice of the Grant Award ODP for the '04 Dollars. Once we get Notice of the Grant Award, the clock starts ticking and we have 60 days to get the money out. With that time frame, we really don't want to make a major change with the strategy we have been using. We recommended to the Finance Subcommittee to stay status

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quo for the 04' Grant Cycle and fund through the LEPC to the counties -- again, for the '04 Funding Process only. This was passed unanimously by the Finance Subcommittee.

It was discussed that it is the recommendation to have a discussion and act on this in utilizing the funding through the LEPC to the counties for the '04 Funding Cycle only.

There was a discussion on any negative issues and stated that there is no problem getting together the up-process using the LEPC on the actual payments. The downside is getting the money to the specific cities within a county in order for the funds to be disseminated or reimbursed to an entity. This issue was tabled for future discussion.

It was also brought up that the interlocal agreement is not a requirement of the State and that is something that occurs between counties.

Bob Hadfield accepted the motion to approve the continuation of the 04' Funding Cycle through the LEPC to the counties and asked if there was any further discussion. No further discussion and this motion was passed unanimously.

Next issue of concern was the funding formula distribution of funds. It was noted that the previous funding through the LEPC to the counties was based on demonstrative need formula for the grant cycle.

Option one is flat funding based on population. Option two is to use a \$25,000 base amount of money to each county and the remaining is based on population, to exclude Carson City as Carson City is treated as a quasi-state agency. Option three is straight funding based on demonstrative need.

It was discussed for the federal fiscal year '04 to have more of a regional approach with the counties, i.e., to purchase and share one piece of equipment.

There was discussion regarding political correctness as to the justification of smaller counties receiving funding and is it going for homeland security. Individual county assessments was brought up and briefly discussed.

The Senator briefly remarked on the prevention of hard targets and attention to soft targets in homeland security.

Hearing on motion carried unanimously.

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There was a discussion on the State's strategy regarding the '04 money allocated to applicants for training, planning initiative, and exercise. It was recommended that there be a stipulation within the application requiring the appropriate level of training addressing all particular areas and mandates that the applicants identify the equipment and state the particular areas of training and planning initiative.

Hearing on motion to approve that recommendation for the stipulation within the application carried unanimously.

Next, discussion on the quotes of pieces of equipment within the application that has become a lot of work for the state, the committees, and the applicants to comply with and to no longer make that a requirement for applicants to state quotes on pieces of equipment needed. The Senator stated that any stipulations on front end on what applicants should be asking for and guidance to applicants on Homeland Security. It was stated that it must be an approved ODP course.

The motion for the estimation of the dollar amount only on equipment needed within the application and not quotes was approved and carried unanimously.

There was a brief discussion on the first briefing of communication equipment to have a joint session with the committees. No recommendations right now.

Item Agenda No. 2 is done.

3. PROPOSALS TO REMOVE TABLED MOTION ON CREATING A LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIFIC SUBCOMMITTEE – Chairman Bussell

The Chair would ask Tod Carlini to make comments, if applicable.

Tod stated that since our last meeting it has been brought up about having a separate law enforcement subcommittee with the recommendation of Chief Mike Mayberry. Chief Mike Mayberry is not present today because of health issues. Tod stated several Commissioners will be involved in the law enforcement subcommittee. Tod stated there will be four components under the law enforcement subcommittee.

This motion failed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was some discussion on proxy vote, having two members on a subcommittee, and subcommittees should follow open meeting law.

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It was also brought up to alternate the meetings between the North and the South and Chairman Bussell stated that they need to work out the funding.

There was some discussion on the division of money formula to State Homeland Security Program, local law enforcement and the Citizens Corp. Should it be based on need as every county has different needs, or more discretionary funding based on need?

Then the meeting went back to Item No. 2 on the Agenda to discuss the funding formula and the categories based on need in accordance with statewide need and strategy. Counsel mentioned a motion to reconsider. Original formulas to stay the same. Andy Anderson of Las Vegas addressed the funding to law enforcement – terrorist prevention and citizens corp established for assistance, i.e., neighborhood watch programs.

The motion to allocate those two funding sources based on demonstrative need passed unanimously.

4. ADJOURNMENT

In closing a comment was made to be very careful with Homeland Security Money and how handled – that the public is watching and everything needs to be as clean as a whistle.

Meeting adjourned by Chairman Bussell.